

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APP. NO. 10/667,364**

REMARKS

Summary Of The Office Action

The Examiner has objected to the title of the invention as allegedly not being descriptive. Applicant changes the title to address this objection.

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application. Claims 17-24 are added by this Amendment.

Claims 1-5, 8-12, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by USP 6,553,444 granted to Holmquist et al.

Claims 6, 7, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over USP 6,553,444 granted to Holmquist et al., in view of USP 6,442,734, granted to Hanson et al.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Analysis Of The Prior Art Rejections

In rejecting claims 1-5, 8-12, 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Holmquist et al, the Examiner cites portions of Holmquist which are purported to disclose each of the claimed features.

Applicant submits, however, that Holmquist does not disclose a first unit connected to a host device, wherein the unit comprises: a medium insertion/removal sensing unit which senses when a medium is inserted into the first unit or when the medium is removed from the first unit, as required by claim 1. Similarly, Holmquist does not disclose a unit connected to a host device,

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wherein the unit comprises: a medium insertion unit, which receives a medium and generates a sensor signal when the medium is inserted or removed, as required by claim 2. Also, Holmquist does not disclose sensing when a medium is inserted into or removed from a unit connected to a host device, as required by claim 8 or claim 15; or generating a sensor signal when a medium is inserted into or removed from a unit connected to a host device, as required by claim 9 or 16.

Regarding claims 3, 4, 10 and 11, each of these claims recites that the medium is a memory stick. The Examiner refers to col. 1, lines 45-46 of Holmquist et al as teaching a memory stick. Applicant submits, however, that Holmquist et al does not teach a memory stick, but instead teaches a portable memory element.

Regarding newly added independent claims 17, 18, 21 and 22, Applicant submits that these claims are patentable for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claims 1, 2, 8 and 9, respectively, as well as for the additional limitations in these claims.

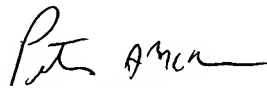
Applicant further submits that the dependent claims are patentable for at least the reasons that the independent claims are patentable, as well as for the additional limitations in these claims.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 17, 2005